NOW COMICS™

FREE GIANT FULL COLOR PIN-UP INSIDE!

1 AUG
$1.75
2.25 IN CANADA

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS

WRITTEN BY
JAMES VAN HISE
PENCILLED BY
JOHN TOBIAS
INKED BY
BRIAN THOMAS
COLORED BY
RICH POWERS

COVER BY
KEN STEACY

NOW ON SALE!

RUST 12

By Fred Schiller, Tony Akins, Tom Morgan & Jim Brozman

Policeman, corruption and car chases?! Is this a story of everyone's favorite walking scab or a figment of our imagination?

PLUS: A Special 5-page TERMINATOR Preview Back-up! Don't miss it!

Full-Color Baxter Monthly $1.75US/$2.25CANADA

SPEED RACER 12

By Lamar Waldron, Joe Phillips, and Brian (RACER-X) Thomas

SPEED RACER is in Japan! But why is he being followed by a secret society of ninja warriors? Don't miss the First Anniversary Issue!

PLUS: In celebration of SPEED RACER's first year anniversary as a successful comic book, included in this issue only is a full-color giant centerspread pin-up of SPEED RACER #1's history-making cover!

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ASTRO BOY 11

By Ken Steacy and Andrew Pratt!

The all new monthly ASTRO BOY package! MORE PAGES! A FREE GIANT FULL COLOR ASTRO BOY PIN-UP IN EVERY ISSUE! Games and puzzles! All this brought to you by one of the most fantastic air-brush artists in the world! In this issue ASTRO BOY finds a home with a most unlikely pair for parents!

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THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS 1

By James Van Hise, John Tobias, & Brian Thomas

This is it! Based on the hit-movie and the smash cartoon show! NOW in comic form! ALL-NEW monthly adventures of the fabulous REAL GHOSTBUSTERS in the quality only NOW COMICS can deliver!

In this premiere collector's issue we find the REAL GHOSTBUSTERS up against a ghost of Captain Nemo?!

Full-Color Baxter Monthly $1.75US/$2.25CANADA

RACER-X PREMIERE ISSUE

By Fred Schiller, George Booker, & Brian Thomas

THE MYSTIQUE, THE MASK, THE MAN! It's SPEED RACER's older brother Rex Racer as the mysterious RACER-X! A fantastic 48-page comic size book introducing RACER-X like you've never seen him before! Who is Rex Racer? And why is he the government's best kept secret! Find out in this fabulous highest-quality book available ONLY at comic specialty shops everywhere! Check your Yellow Pages under NEW & USED BOOKS! Watch this outlet next month for the first issue of the regular RACER-X monthly comic!

SPECIAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION $3.50US/$4.50CANADA

COMING NEXT MONTH...

THE TERMINATOR! 1

By Fred Schiller, Tony Akins, & Jim Brozman

It's 2031, and the battle continues! Don't miss the first issue of a regular monthly book based on the popular motion picture starring Arnold Schwarzenegger as the unstoppable TERMINATOR! Sure to keep you at the edge of your seat with action!

Full-Color Baxter Monthly $1.75US/$2.25CANADA.

SPEED RACER SPECIAL NUMBER TWO

By Tatsuo Yoshida (SPEED RACER's creator!), Andrew Pratt and Ken Steacy, with a fantastic cover by Mitch O' Connell!

This is a special anniversary edition celebrating a year of super-successful SPEED RACER comics! This prestige-format edition includes the original adaptation done by the creator of SPEED RACER himself of the famous X-3 episode! Colored by the fabulous Ken Steacy! PLUS: A FREE flexi-disk record of the original SPEED RACER THEME SONG from the popular TV Show! All this in a high-quality comic size book! Makes a great gift!

SPECIAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION $3.50US/$4.50CANADA

THE REAL

GHOSTBUSTERS 1

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WRITTEN BY
JAMES VAN HISE
PENCILLED BY
JOHN TOBIAS
LETTERED BY
JIM MASSARA & KEN HOLEWZCYNSKI
INKED BY
BRIAN THOMAS
COVER BY
KEN STEACY

WELCOME ABOARD!

SAY—THIS IS JUNE! TO OUR droves of regular readers, this means little. School's out for Summer. Guys and gals get to drive around with the windows rolled down, crank tunes, and check out gals and guys. Nothing new. But (and this is a very big but) to the millions (and you know who you are) of comic book readers who aren't lucky enough to live near a specialty store to pick up their copies of the new NOW Comics each and every month, this is the best month ever! Why? Because as of this month, they, and everyone else, can walk down to the corner store and take their pick of the latest issue of **SPEED RACER, RACER-X, THE ORIGINAL ASTRO BOY, RUST, AND THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS.** That's right! Starting this month, thanks to the fine folks at **WARNER** Publishers Services, your local newsstand, convenience store, book store, shoe store—anywhere they sell quality comics—will have access to all of our titles. So if you can't find a copy of **THE TERMINATOR, OR FRIGHT NIGHT, OR RALPH SNART ADVENTURES** on your local magazine rack, go up to the owner and grab him by the collar, shake him up a bit, and tell him to get his act together.

You still can't beat a comic shop for service, personal attention, and access to back issues. But (and this is a smaller but) then again there's nothing like hopping on your ten speed, buzzing down to the corner store, and picking up a copy of **THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS** and a large grape Slurpoid. (Sounds like the makings of a Norman Rockwell painting, no?)

So again, to all our new readers, a big howdy from me and the rest of the crew up here in the NOW Towers. Publisher Tony Caputo and myself, are doing our best to make the wait for our books worthwhile. A helpful hint to those of you just picking up an established title (like RUST), make sure you read the letters pages in the back of the book, for clues as to what you've missed in earlier issues. We try to keep things current, but if you're a bit confused—that's the place to look, or to write to. We live for your letters.

So kick back with your very first newsstand NOW Comic. Make sure you have proper lighting available. If you're driving a car—pull it over, buddy.

Make sure your grape Slurpoid is handy. And most importantly... enjoy yourself! That's what it's all about. Remember, you're in very capable hands. One small warning, though... be careful not to have too much fun. Hey—don't laugh—it's happened before. Honest!

BE GOOD,

FRED SCHILLER
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

HEY, GUYS, IT'S TIME FOR THE WIZARD!

WIZARD OF SPEED & TIME

SORRY, RAY, BUT MY MOLDS ARE SPAWNING.

C'MON, PETER, IT'S THAT GREAT NEW SPECIAL-EFFECTS PROCESS, JITLO-VATION!

SORRY, I'VE GOT A DATE THAT CAN'T WAIT, SO UNLESS THE ALARM SOUNDS, I'LL BE OUT OF TOWN.

THAT'S JUST GREAT! MORE SPECIAL EFFECTS! THAT'S JUST WHAT MY LIFE REALLY NEEDS. REALITY HAS AS MANY SPECIAL EFFECTS AS I CAN HANDLE NOW. SEEING MORE IS NOT MY IDEA OF A GOOD TIME. BESIDES, WE'LL PROBABLY GET A CALL BEFORE THE SHOW'S HALF OVER ANYWAY. I NEED A CHANGE OF SCENERY BEFORE I OVERLOAD!

MEANWHILE, AMID A GLITTERING FLASH OF EXACTLY WHAT WINSTON ZEDDEMORE IS TIRED OF...

TOUCHDOWN --1988!

BRING OUR BOYS

BUT WHERE? PISMO BEACH? POWAY?

SCREECH

NO, LOOK! WE MADE IT! NEW YORK CITY!

FRED'S JOINT

NO PARKING 7AM-7PM

TOW ZONE

TAXI

THEN IT WORKED! YOU SURE THAT SLUG CAN'T FOLLOW US HERE?

THE SLUG IS OUT OF THE PICTURE-- PERMANENTLY! PHEW! THIS PLACE SMELLS WORSE THAN HE DID!

YOU'LL GET USED TO IT, EVERYONE SUPPOSEDLY DOES.

BESIDES, IT'S ALL PART OF THE AMBIENCE, JUST LIKE THE 1988 CLOTHES WE'RE WEARING AND...

...AND JUST LIKE THAT.

BRING OUR BOYS BACK FROM OB-LA-DEE

NOW WHERE ARE WE GOING AGAIN? A SUBMARINE? I HAD TO STAND UP MY DATE FOR A TASTE OF CLAUSTRO-PHOBIA?

FRED'S BARBER SHOP

NO, IT'S CALLED CAPTAIN NEMO'S SUBMARINA.

JEWE

YOU MEAN IT'S AT THE HARBOR?

THEN IT'S INSIDE A SUB-MARINE?

NO, IT'S A FAST FOOD F.ACE, IT'S JUST CALLED A SUBMARINA 'CAUSE THEY HAVE SANDWICHES THERE.

NO, THEY SELL SUBMARINE SAND-WICHES THERE! IT'S NOT EVEN RUN BY CAPTAIN NEMO!

BUT DID THEY GET HIS PERMISSION?

RAY!

TAXI

CAPTAIN NEMO'S SUBMARINA

SUBMARINA

CAPT. NEMO'S SUBMARINA

MAYBE SOMEONE SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN NEMO'S PERMISSION AT THAT.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT. I SHOULD BELIEVE IT BY NOW, BUT I CAN'T HELP IT.

NO, THAT CAN'T BE...

IT'S CAPTAIN NEMO, AND I READ A LOT OF POWER BEING UNLEASHED IN THERE.

DO YOU THINK THAT IF HE KNEW HE COULD FIND THE NAUTILUS AT DISNEYWORLD HE MIGHT LEAVE. I COULD USE A VACATION DOWN THERE.

TOO DANGEROUS, AND THE TOURISTS WOULD NEVER UNDERSTAND. IT'S UP TO US TO DEAL WITH IT HERE.

IT'S ALWAYS UP TO US TO DEAL WITH IT HERE...

HEY, CAP! I THOUGHT THE MOVIE WAS GREAT AND I KNOW A VIDEO STORE WITH THE LASERDISC, WHY DON'T WE...

MORE MOCKERY! WELL, LET'S SEE YOU MOCK THIS!

"I'LL BE BACK. . ."

THE TERMINATOR, 1984

A NEW FULL-COLOR MONTHLY SERIES

COMING THIS JUNE

NOW™ comics

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GIVE 'EM A DEEP BLUE GOODBYE!

SCATTER!

WHY ARE THE GREEN ONES ALWAYS SO MEAN?

CRASH

THAT WAS JUST A SIMPLE MANIFESTATION OF NEMO'S LATENT ECTOPLASMIC POWERS.

HE CAN'T DO THAT TO US! WE'RE GHOSTBUSTERS!

WELL, LET'S GIVE HIM A MANIFESTATION OF **OUR** POWERS!

MY SUGGESTION EXACTLY.

HE'S CREATED A LANDSHARK!

TEAR THEM UP, THEN TEAR THIS PLACE DOWN!

NOT IF WE GET YOU FIRST!

YEOOCH! I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS!

WHAT'S HAPPENINGGGGGGG!?

DON'T LOOK NOW, JAWS, BUT IF HE'S IN THERE, YOU CAN'T EXIST OUT HERE ANY MORE.

OH, YEAH?

OH...

no...

WHO'S THAT?

WHERE DID HE COME FROM?

STOP! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

THANKS, WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU.

SPECIAL $1.49

AMID A SWIRLING FLASH ACCOMPANIED BY A STRANGE, HIGH-PITCHED SOUND, THE COUNTER CLOCK CRIMINALS VANISH.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

CAPTAIN NEMO HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED!

YEAH, BY A MUSIC VIDEO.

DOES THIS MEAN WE STILL GET PAID FOR GETTING RID OF HIM?

WINSTON HAS HIS OWN REASONS TO BE GLUM ABOUT HOW THINGS TURNED OUT.

SPECIAL EFFECTS! EVERYWHERE I GO THERE'S MORE SPECIAL EFFECTS! NOW THEY'RE EVEN WEARING HAND-ME-DOWN CLOTHES AND TRYIN' TO STEAL MY JOB!

MORE TO THE POINT IS WHO THOSE FOUR ARE, HOW THEY PULLED OFF SUCH A SPECTACULAR FEAT OF TECHNOLOGY AND WHY THEY CAPTURED A GHOST... A PARTICULARLY POWERFUL GHOST AT THAT.

MAYBE THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE RESCUING HIM?

FRIGHT NIGHT™

THE MOVIE. THE SEQUEL. THE REGULAR MONTHLY COMIC.

COMING THIS SUMMER

NOW™ comics

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ON AN OLD HOUSE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY, FOUR BEINGS FROM A FUTURE ERA EXAMINE THEIR CATCH. TUREK, COWAN, GARD AND BETHANY HAVE COMPLETED STAGE ONE OF THEIR CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED PLAN.

IT WAS EASIER THAN I'D HOPED.

ANOTHER SCIENTIST TO USE AND ABUSE.

BUT WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE'RE THROUGH WITH HIM? THIS ONE'S ALREADY DEAD.

I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE DIDN'T JUST GO FURTHER BACK AND CATCH HIM WHEN HE WAS STILL ALIVE.

BECAUSE HE DIDN'T HAVE HIS CURRENT AFTER-LIFE POWERS BACK THEN. HIS KNOWLEDGE AND HIS POWERS WILL BE MUCH MORE USEFUL WHEN WE TAKE HIM BACK UP THE LINE.

YOU'RE SURE THESE WILL HOLD UP THROUGH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT PLANNED, AND THEN TAKE US BACK, TOO?

THE SLUG REVEALED A LOT BEFORE WE DECIDED TO USE HIM UP.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE GHOSTBUSTERS? THEY WON'T GIVE UP UNTIL THEY TRACK US DOWN. THEY DON'T LIKE MYSTERIES.

SOMETHING ELSE THE SLUG REVEALED WILL COME IN HANDY DEALING WITH THEM. EVER HEAR OF STEPHANIE QUEEN?

DO I LOOK STUPID? YOU KNOW WE ALL STUDIED THE MANDATORY CLASSICS.

THEN YOU'LL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT WE'RE GOING TO BORROW A FEW PAGES FROM *THAT, THE GORE, DARK TERRITORIES* AND *JEFTY IS DEAD*

YEAH, YEAH, THE TEACHERS MADE ME READ THOSE OLD CLASSICS.

IT'S WHY WE CAME DOWN THE LINE TO HERE.

THESE ARE THE GOOD DAYS... THE DARK DAYS.

AND IT'S WHY THE GHOSTBUSTERS THRIVE, BUT BEFORE WE BLIP OUT OF HERE FOR GOOD, WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT JUST HOW GOOD THEY REALLY ARE.

THEY WON'T TAKE THIS LYING DOWN, YOU KNOW.

...HONEST, DANA, I WAS JUST FOOLIN' WHEN I SAID YOU WERE A DOG...

UHH...

YOU'RE GONNA SLIME ME AGAIN, AREN'T YOU?

NOOOOOO... FRIEND!

YEAH, WELL, I'LL NEVER FORGET THE WAY YOU SAID HELLO.

PETER, REMEMBER HOW WE GOT $5000 WHEN WE CAUGHT HIM?

OH, YEAH. I FORGOT. THEN SHOULDN'T WE PUT HIM IN THE CONTAINMENT VAULT?

CAPTAIN NEMO'S SUBMARINA JUST CALLED AND THANKED US FOR THE GREAT JOB YOU GUYS DID. THEIR INSURANCE COMPANY IS DOING THE PAPERWORK NOW TO CUT YOU A CHECK.

I WISH I COULD HAVE BEEN THERE TO SEE YOU IN ACTION.

IT WAS NOTHING, REALLY.

THAT DOES IT! I'VE GOT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO NEMO BEFORE THIS BACKFIRES!

BUT THIS IS THE EIGHTIES-- LOOKS ARE ALL THAT MATTERS!

I WON'T TAKE CREDIT FOR A DEFEAT SNATCHED FROM THE JAWS OF VICTORY, NO MATTER HOW IT LOOKS TO OTHERS.

THAT NIGHT, AS EGON IS IN HIS LAB, CONCENTRATING ON THE P.K.E. VALENCE READINGS HE MADE AT THE SUBMARINA, THERE ARE SILENT INVADERS IN THE FIREHOUSE WHO LEAVE UNWELCOME GIFTS--PRODUCTS OF AN ALIEN TECHNOLOGY.

I TAKE IT YOU WERE SUCCESSFUL?

EMINENTLY SO.

EACH OF THE GHOSTBUSTERS HAS BEEN GIVEN A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING, A REALITY SHIFTER WHICH HAS TRANSFERRED THEM TO A PLANET WHERE REALITY IS FAMILIAR, BUT DANGEROUSLY DIFFERENT. THE ENVIRONMENT ALREADY THERE HAS BEEN MANIPULATED BY ME JUST ENOUGH TO MAKE THINGS DISTINCTLY UNPLEASANT.

I THOUGHT THE AIR SMELLED FUNNY HERE, EVEN FOR NEW YORK!

I KNOW THIS IS PROBABLY A MISTAKE, AND I MAKE LOTS OF THOSE, BUT I'VE GOT TO KNOW-- WHAT FRIENDS ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WE'RE ALONE HERE!

GLAD YOU COULD COME TO CALL. MY FRIENDS ARE PLEASED AS WELL.

NOT ANY MORE!

IT'S SHOWTIME!

GIANT FULL COLOR PIN-UP

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS™

PUFT

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THE PLANET THEY'RE ON IS A PARALLEL EARTH, BUT THE LAWS OF NATURE, OF SPACE AND TIME, ARE NOT AS STRICTLY ENFORCED AS THEY ARE HERE. IT WOULD TAKE A GREATER WILL AND INTELLECT THAN PETER VENKMAN HAS TO OVERTURN THE VERDICT I'VE HANDED DOWN THERE.

OH, NO, I HATE IT WHEN I DREAM ABOUT BEING BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL.

SILENCE!

HEY, HE WAS NEVER ONE OF MY TEACHERS--BUT HE'S UGLY ENOUGH TO HAVE BEEN.

OUCH, I BET THAT HURTS.

NO, IT DOESN'T HURT. IT FEELS GOOD. SEE?

AND I THOUGHT THE SCHOOL DREAMS WERE BAD WHEN I COULDN'T REMEMBER MY LOCKER COMBINATION.

"EVEN NOW I EXPECT THAT RAY STANTZ IS HAVING A RUDE AWAKENING IN THE LAND *BEYOND* BEYOND."

NOW WHAT?!

I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU GUYS BEFORE! HEY, IF I'VE LOCKED UP SOME OF YOUR FRIENDS OR DEAD RELATIVES, MAYBE WE CAN WORK SOMETHING OUT!

HURRY! WE HAVE TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION SO THAT WE CAN VOYAGE TO THE PLANET OF THOSE WE NEVER KNEW!

BUT IF YOU NEVER KNEW THEM, HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO GO THERE, AND HOW DID I GET HERE?

THIS IS A SWITCH. EVERYONE'S PLANNING TO SKIP OUT ON REALITY. MAYBE I'M NEAR LOS ANGELES.

THE DESCENDANTS OF OUR ALIEN ANCESTORS AWAIT US, NOW THAT WE ARE ALL CHILDREN OF THE SAME WORLD, BENEATH THE FLESH.

I'M NOT ONE OF THE SAUCERMEN! I DON'T EVEN HAVE A GREEN CARD!

WHAT?! WE'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS NOW!

I DIDN'T MEAN TO GET UNDER YOUR SKIN.

"EVEN THE RESOURCEFUL EGON SPENGLER WILL FIND THAT HE'S LOST HIS GRIP ON WHAT HE PERCEIVED AS REALITY."

I'M SURE I'M CLOSE TO THE ANSWER, AS INCREDIBLE AS IT MAY SEEM!

WHAT'S HAPPENED? EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED. IT'S IN RUINS, AND NOT FROM ONE OF OUR CASES.

THINGS COULDN'T CHANGE THIS FAST, UNLESS...

WINSTON!

PETER!

RAY!

ANYBODY?

EVERYTHING'S ABANDONED, AS THOUGH CIVILIZATION WAS DESTROYED. IT'S WHAT I SUSPECTED.

I KNEW THAT SPACE AND TIME WAS THE KEY, BUT WHAT IF I FOUND OUT TOO LATE?

ALL THOSE TIMES I WORKED ALONE, LONG INTO THE NIGHT, CRAVING SOLITUDE, RESENTING THE INTERRUPTIONS. BUT I NEVER IMAGINED ANYTHING COULD BE LIKE THIS, THAT ANYONE COULD BE THIS ALONE. EVEN MY COLLECTION OF SPORES AND MOLDS IS GONE.

ALONE. FACING THE EMPTINESS OF FOREVER IN A WORLD BOTH STRANGE AND HAUNTINGLY FAMILIAR.

JANINE.

THE MYSTIQUE THE MASK THE MAN.

RACER-X

He's the government's best kept secret.

WRITTEN BY **FRED SCHILLER** DRAWN BY **GEORGE BOOKER**
INKED BY **BRIAN THOMAS** COLORED BY **CYGNET ASH**

COMING THIS MAY.

NOW comics

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WINSTON IS BEING PLAGUED BY THE OPPOSITE OF LONELINESS...

I DON'T WHERE I AM OR HOW I GOT HERE, BUT I GUESS THAT JUST COMES WITH THE TERRITORY..

I SEE A LOT OF MONSTERS STANDING AROUND DOING NOTHING, BUT ONLY KIDS ARE AFRAID OF MONSTERS WHO STARE AT THEM.

THEN WHY DON'T WE CHASE YOU AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU'RE CAUGHT!

I DON'T WORRY ABOUT GUYS WHO ARE SO AFRAID OF ME THEY NEED A WHOLE GANG TO TAKE ME ON!

I DON'T BACK DOWN TO BULLIES, EVEN WHEN THEY'RE AS UGLY AS YOU ARE.

NOW THE ROOM* HAS VANISHED AND I'M OUTSIDE. THIS IS NUTS! BUT IF THEY REALLY WANTED TO DO ANYTHING, THEY COULD HAVE DONE IT ALREADY.

I'M NOT RUNNING AWAY, YOU GOT THAT?

ELSEWHERE IN THE PARALLEL REALITY...

NAW, I JUST NEVER WENT IN FOR THAT STYLE. THE UNISEX LOOK NEVER PLAYED WELL ON ME.

WELL, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? IT'S TIME TO CHANGE!

A NON-CONFORMIST! THAT'S NOT WHAT HIGH SCHOOL IS FOR!

STRANGLE YOUR CREATIVITY!

HIGH SCHOOL IS TO CRUSH YOUR SPIRIT!

FILL YOU WITH SELF-DOUBT!

AND TURN YOU INTO MINDLESS CONSUMERS!

WOW, THIS *IS* JUST LIKE MY OLD HIGH SCHOOL, EXCEPT FOR ALL THE TEETH AND CLAWS.

SORRY I'VE GOTTA RUN, BUT I'M LATE FOR MY EXOBIOLOGY CLASS.

2B

I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO USE MY WITS TO GET OUT OF THIS. BOY, I REALLY *AM* IN TROUBLE!

MAKE HIM CHANGE!

LET'S JUST TURN HIM INSIDE OUT!

RAY ISN'T FARING MUCH BETTER, EITHER.

WAIT, SOMETHING'S ODD HERE.

YOU'RE TELLING ME?

WHO ARE YOU AND HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

I'M RAY AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE *HERE* IS! I WAS ASLEEP IN THE LOFT IN NEW YORK WHEN...

NEW YORK? BUT THAT'S ON EARTH!

AND WHAT I'M STANDING ON ISN'T IT?

IF HE CAME ALL THE WAY FROM EARTH, HE MUST HAVE A POWER SOURCE!

ALL OF OUR EFFORTS WILL BE USELESS IF WE CAN'T FIGURE OUT A WAY TO REPOWER THE SHIP'S STARDRIVE.

SHOW IT TO ME. MAYBE I CAN HELP.

INSIDE THE SPACECRAFT...

HERE'S THE PROBLEM. SOME OF THE OLD CORE ELEMENTS HAVE DETERIORATED, ALLOWING POWER TO BLEED OFF. IT NEEDS TO BE ENERGIZED. IF I WERE BACK HOME, I'D HAVE ACCESS TO...

HE'S HIDING SOMETHING!

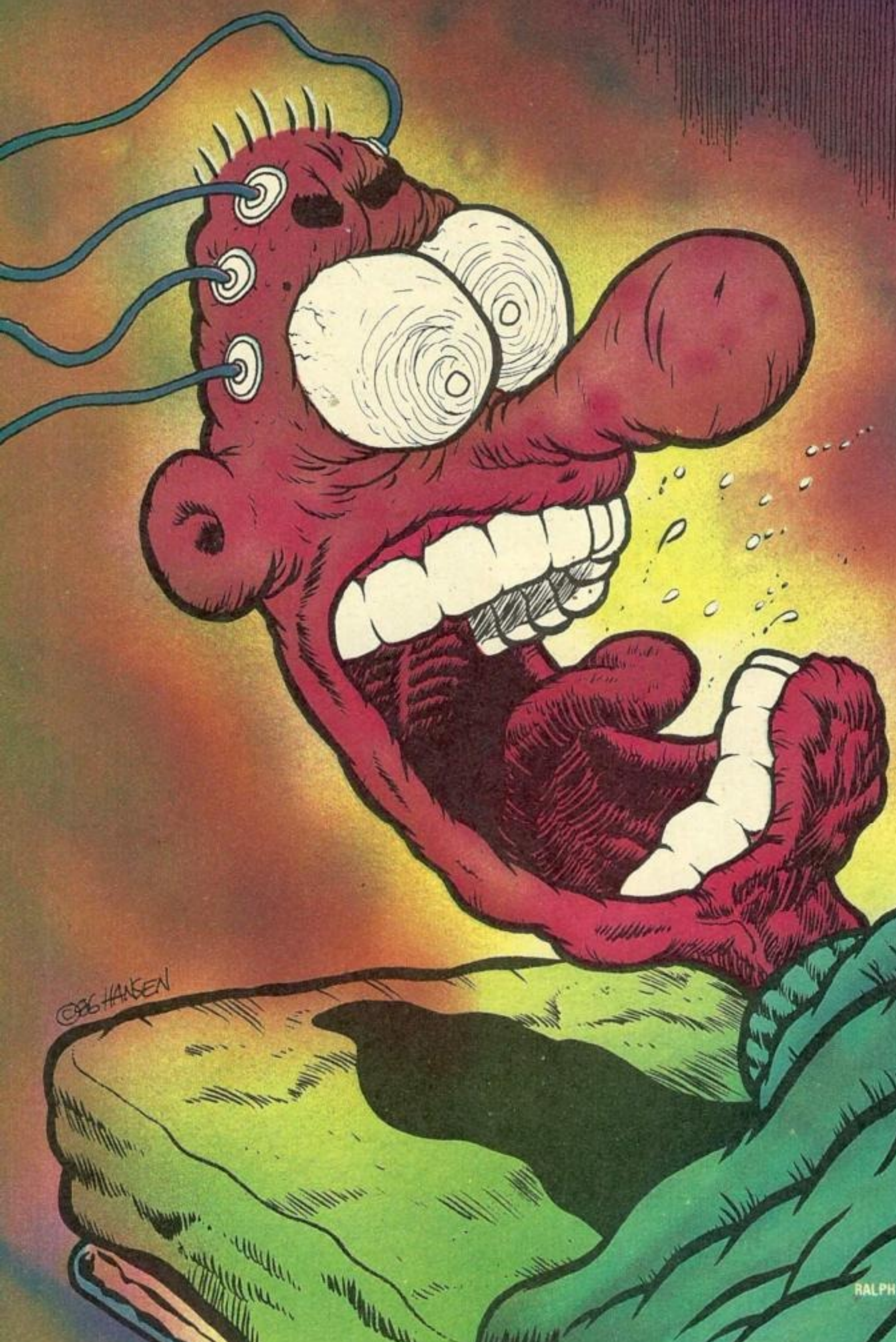
HE'S TRYING TO PROTECT HIS OWN SPACECRAFT!

BUT I DON'T HAVE A SPACECRAFT! I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW I GOT HERE! I GUESS THERE'S NO REASONING WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE TENTACLES!

RALPH SNART IS HOT!

Ralph Snart is not your ordinary, everyday comic book character. Deep in the dark recesses of his imagination lurks the overwhelming urge to explore the outer boundaries of the ridiculous and the outrageous!
Join him each month, and discover it too!

NBM comics



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IN THE PART OF THE PARALLEL WORLD WHERE EGON IS THE SOLE INHABITANT, THE GHOST-BUSTER IS TRYING TO THINK HIS WAY OUT OF THIS STRANGE DILEMMA.

IT'S JUST AS I SUSPECTED. NO SIGN OF LIFE ANYWHERE. MAYBE I'M LOOKING IN THE WRONG PLACE.

15TH FLOOR

I SUPPOSE THAT TALKING TO MYSELF ISN'T THE HEALTHIEST OCCUPATION TO HAVE AT THE MOMENT, BUT NO ONE'S HERE TO MAKE FUN OF ME, TEASE ME OR ANNOY ME OR GET ON MY NERVES OR ANY OF THE OTHER THINGS MY FRIENDS DO. BUT WHERE ARE THEY? I DOUBT I WAS SINGLED OUT FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT, AND THEY COULD BE IN WORSE TROUBLE-- DEPENDING ON ME EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT THERE.

THE SECRET IS SPACE AND TIME AND THE MANIPULATION OF REALITY. THIS IS A LONELY DUPLICATE OF THE WORLD I KNEW, BUT IT *IS* LIKE THE WORLD I KNEW. THAT *COULD* BE THE KEY!

IN THE RUINS OF HIS DUPLICATE LAB, EGON CONDUCTS AN EXPERIMENT...

IT'S HERE! MY SECRET VAULT! JUST LIKE I *KNEW* IT MUST BE! I ALSO KNOW MUST BE INSIDE!

THE PROTON PACKS ARE HERE, JUST LIKE IN THE REAL FIREHOUSE! FULLY CHARGED TOO, JUST LIKE I *KNEW* THEY'D BE!

THERE'S ONLY TWO, AND THEY SURE CAN'T HELP ME. BUT I BET THEY CAN HELP THE OTHERS!

IT DOESN'T TAKE A GENIUS TO FIGURE OUT THE GUYS ARE IN TROUBLE. I *WANT* THE TWO WHO NEED THESE THE MOST, TO HAVE THEM... *NOW*!

IT WORKED! JUST LIKE I *KNEW* IT WOULD!

AND AT PETER'S HIGH SCHOOL REUNION...

THIS FIGURES -- I ALWAYS HATED GYM CLASS..

THIS IS EITHER WHERE I WAKE UP SCREAMING OR SCREAM MYSELF TO SLEEP!

THEN REALITIES COLLIDE -- FAVORABLY.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE THIS CAME FROM OR EVEN IF IT'S REAL, BUT I NEVER LOOK A GIFT PROTON PACK IN THE MOUTH!

THIS PLACE EVEN *LOOKS* LIKE MY OLD HIGH SCHOOL! TIME TO SAVE THE WORLD!

THORNTON FRACTIONAL SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL'S OUT -- *FOREVER!*

SCORE

HOME

VISITOR

MEANWHILE, RAY IS TRYING TO GET A GRIP ON THINGS, OR IS IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND?

THIS IS GETTING MONOTONOUS, GUYS! I DON'T HAVE WHAT YOU WANT!

EGON'S SPECIAL DELIVER ARRIVES.

THIS CAN'T BE REAL!

RAY TESTS HIS SURPRISE PACKAGE BY FIRING A WARNING BLAST...

WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW. IT IS REAL!

PLEASE, WE HAVE NO WEAPONS.' ALL OUR RESOURCES WENT INTO CONSTRUCTING THE STARSHIP. NOW THAT WE'VE BEGUN TO RESEMBLE OUR ANCESTORS, WE WANT TO SEE THE WORLD WE NEVER KNEW!

ALL I WANT TO SEE IS THE ONE I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN.

MAYBE WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER AFTER ALL.

I DON'T PRETEND TO UNDERSTAND ALL THIS, BUT BUT I THINK THIS PROTON PACK WILL RE-START YOUR STARDRIVE.

ASSUMING THE REST OF THE SYSTEMS ARE FUNCTIONAL.

WE'RE NOT ENEMIES AND WE'VE GOT LOTS OF WORK TO DO.

AND IN MONSTER ALLEY...

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU TRYIN' TO SCARE ME? WELL I'VE SEEN WORSE THAN YOU AND ALL YOUR COUSINS! AND YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE TO ME?

SPECIAL EFFECTS !!

BUT WHEN I WAS A KID, I *LIKED* MONSTERS! YOU WERE MY FRIENDS! FOR A LONG TIME YOU WERE MY ONLY FRIENDS.

BUT NOW I'VE GOT REAL FRIENDS, AND THE KICK IS WE FIGHT MONSTERS! EVERYDAY IT'S MORE AND MORE SPECIAL EFFECTS! EVERWHERE I GO IT'S BIGGER AND WEIRDER SPECIAL EFFECTS!

I NEED A VACATION! ENOUGH ALREADY! GO AWAY! AMSCRAY! FADE OUT!

I JUST WANT TO BE BACK IN THE FIREHOUSE... *NOW!*

WINSTON'S COMMAND IS REALITY'S DEMAND, AND THE FIREHOUSE NEVER FELT *MORE* INVITING.

THIS IS TOO WEIRD.

I DON'T KNOW HOW I GOT THERE, MUCH LESS HOW I GOT BACK HERE! THAT SOUNDS LIKE SLIMER SCREAMING DOWNSTAIRS!

SLIMER, WHERE ARE THE OTHERS? WAS I SINGLED OUT FOR THIS TREAT OR--

IF I COULD UNDERSTAND YOUR GIBBERISH I'D ASK YOU WHAT'S WRONG.

WHAT ARE YOU POINTING AT...

SOMETIMES REALITY CAN PRODUCE UNPLEASANT SURPRISES WITHOUT DEPENDING ON PARALLEL WORLDS, WEREWOLF HIGH, OR OCTOPUS PEOPLE FOR INSPIRATION.

OH NO, NOT AGAIN!

CONCLUDED NEXT ISSUE!

Do You Blame Her?

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